

19th August 1925]

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 108 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th August 1925, page 176 supra.]

Extracts from the revised directions for using vaccine lymph.

1. Supplies of vaccination lymph to vaccinators in the several districts will be made from the King Institute, Guindy, four times a month on the dates noted against each group of districts :—

(1) Nilgiris, Malabar, 1st, 7th, 17th South Kanara, and 23rd. Coimbatore, Salem.	(4) Kurnool, Ananta- 4th, 10th, pur, Bellary, 20th and Cuddapah, 26th. Nellore.
(2) Ganjam, Goda- 2nd, 8th, 18th vari, Guntur, and 24th Ganjam Hill tracts, Vizaga- patam.	(5) North Arcot, 5th, 11th, Chittoor, 21st and Chingleput, 27th. Ramnad, Kistna district.
(3) Trichinopoly, 3rd, 9th, 19th Tanjore, South and 25th. Arcot, Tinne- velly, Madura.	(6) Municipalities, 6th, 12th, Jails, 22nd and Military. 28th.

Under this arrangement it will be possible for vaccinators to wait for their second supply and then use up two supplies together. This might not be detected as District Health Inspectors are not always in town with their vaccinators. As there still is a tendency to delay in using the vaccine as promptly as possible, vaccinators should be ordered to submit nominal registers of vaccination immediately after finishing their supply. In all cases of delay there should be a severe penalty as it is very important that all supply of lymph should be used promptly. District Health Officers will be expected to take all steps to ensure that this is being done by the vaccinators in their districts.

2. All indents for vaccine lymph shall be in multiples of 20 doses and ordinarily the issue of lymph from the King Institute will be in tubes containing 20 doses each. In special cases tubes containing 10 doses will also be issued but this smaller tube should not be usually necessary if vaccinators exercise due care.

3. The vaccine is sent out from the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, in glass tubes.

Those tubes are labelled to show :—

- (a) The lymph number ;
- (b) the number of cases which can be vaccinated with the contents ;
- (c) the date of despatch ; and
- (d) the period beyond which the vaccine must not be used.

[19th August 1925]

This period is fixed as a maximum for inaccessible places but to ensure good results every effort shall be made to use the vaccine expeditiously.

4. *General instructions.*—

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(5) Heat quickly destroys the potency of vaccine lymph; it should therefore be kept as cool as possible, night and day.

Vaccinators shall be at the appointed places on the due dates in order to take delivery of their supplies of lymph from the Postal authorities immediately on arrival. The vaccine tubes shall at once be placed in a cooled vaccine-carrier.

The carrier being made of materials (pith and glass) which are bad conductors of heat, gives protection from heat to the vaccine. When vaccinators are on the march additional protection can be given by rolling clean clothing round the carrier.

It must be remembered that, as the carrier is designed to keep heat out, it will, if once allowed to get warm, keep heat in just as efficiently and thus completely defeat the end aimed at.

At night time, therefore, the carriers and their contents should be cooled down as thorough as circumstances permit. The carrier should be opened and the tubes of vaccine removed. A little clean water should then be poured into the carrier and the latter hung up still open, in as good a draught of air as possible. The tubes of vaccine should be rolled in a small pad of clean lint or rag and placed in a shallow saucer of water in a good draught of air.

These precautions will be specially effective in hot dry places where the day temperatures are high. The greatest protection from the effects of heat, however, will be obtained by using the vaccine as quickly as possible.

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10. Vaccinators are forbidden to use vaccine beyond the period marked on the tube. This period is calculated so as to give vaccinators four clear days on which to use the vaccine. The observance of this rule must be regarded as imperative. If any vaccine remains unused at the end of the specified time, it should be returned to the Director, King Institute of Preventive Medicine, by letter post, in the box in which it was sent out. A statement of the reasons for not using the supply should be enclosed.

11. Where it is evident that carelessness in exposing the vaccine to the sun, to great heat, or in carrying out the operation has occurred, or where vaccinators have deliberately delayed commencing work for several days after receipt of a fresh supply the District Health Officer should recover the cost of vaccine at the rate of six pies per case. Such recoveries should be remitted to the treasury and credited to the Government under 'XXIII-A. P.H. Public Health Receipts—Mis. Other Items' and the treasury receipts obtained and forwarded to the Director, King Institute, Guindy.